

IN RECOGNITION OF TERRY  
NAGEL

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 30, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Terry Nagel, the retiring Mayor and member of the Burlingame City Council. The word "indefatigable" comes to mind when reciting Terry Nagel's public service.

Mayor Nagel joined the Burlingame City Council in 2003 after receiving the highest number of votes in any council race. She has served three terms as Mayor.

When she launched her council career, she had to do so in periodic darkness because the local power company frequently failed to supply Burlingame with electricity, largely owing to antiquated infrastructure that left the city prone to blackouts during storms. It should be noted that although the power company sometimes failed to provide electricity because of this old equipment, it found a way to buy modern equipment so that Burlingame customers could receive monthly bills for the erratic electrical service. Over several years, Terry Nagel pressured the power company to change its priorities and to spend millions of dollars to make sure the system is reliable, both for Burlingame and surrounding communities. She still receives phone calls during storms from residents who thank her for keeping the lights on.

While every council member shares in the success of a community, Terry Nagel initiated many of the most notable successes, including a recent rebirth of Burlingame Avenue that has given the town a beacon for families, newcomers and visitors. The project took many years to undertake and then to complete, but the results are indisputable. Burlingame's main street is attractive and distinctive, with upgraded businesses to match the beautiful public infrastructure. Terry Nagel can rightfully claim that she helped to create a welcoming and charming cityscape that will be enjoyed by multiple generations.

Mayor Nagel has promoted open government, fiscal responsibility and championed emergency preparedness. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority. She started the Burlingame Pet Parade, a fun-filled family event in Burlingame's community calendar. In conjunction with her public service, she created the Community Wish List that connects donors with over 80 community nonprofits.

She has extensive professional experience managing nonprofits and promoting such venerable institutions as the Stanford Law School. She is a former reporter for our local newspaper, and she is a graduate of the University of Washington, cum laude, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

Mayor Nagel and her husband Jim Nagel have lived in Burlingame for 32 years. If you do the math, you'll realize that her family, including sons Matt and Greg and daughter Katie, have seen Mayor Nagel walk out the door in service to the public for nearly 40% of the time that she has lived in town. This represents thousands of hours outside the home, in dedication to her neighbors and generations yet to come. That's thousands of hours away from her family, yet her family has been rock solid in its support of her vision.

We rise today to honor a great leader of the City of Burlingame and my friend and colleague Terry Nagel. She says that her focus is on communication and building consensus. In fact, it is all of those things and more. She is the penultimate community steward, and although we wish her well in her next adventures, we can also truly say that she will be missed in the years ahead.

HONORING MARY V. KING

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 30, 2015*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Congressman MIKE HONDA and Congressman ERIC SWALWELL, to honor the inspiring life of an exemplary member of the East Bay community, Mary V. King. With her passing on November 15th, 2015, we honor her career of extraordinary service to the East Bay community and her lasting legacy.

As a young mother on public assistance, Mary was drawn into politics to improve the economic conditions of lower income residents. She successfully led a county tax initiative campaign that created new sources of funding for public transit and other transportation projects. In 1988, she became the first African-American woman elected to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and was reelected twice. During her tenure, she authored several monumental policies, including the King Plan, a major land-use amendment to protect open space while maintaining sustainable development in unincorporated areas.

Mary also dedicated much of her time to improving the social services provided to lower income residents. Because of her advocacy, the Mary V. King Health Education Center, located at the Eastmont Wellness Center in Oakland, was named in her honor.

After leaving office in 2001, Mary worked as a private consultant specializing in government affairs, regional housing, and transportation issues. In 2009, she was appointed the General Manager of AC Transit, where she served faithfully until her retirement in 2012.

Mary also served on numerous local and regional committees, including the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), California Department of Corrections, and the Alameda County Central Committee. She also served as a Chief of Staff to Oakland Mayor Lionel J. Wilson and California State Legislator Bill Lockyer.

Throughout her career, she received numerous awards including the "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials; the "Allen E. Broussard Memorial Award for Outstanding Humanitarianism" from the Alameda County Bar Association; and the "George Moscone Memorial Award" from the American Society of Public Administration. In 2014, she was awarded the Metropolitan Transportation Grant award for her leadership as Chair of the Bay Bridge Design Task Force during the construction of the Eastern Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

On a personal note, I will always remember Mary for her many contributions as a public servant, but more importantly, as a loving

mother, grandmother, daughter, and friend. Mary always put her family first. She loved and cared for her beautiful mother, children, and grandchildren in ways that I witnessed and admired. I was inspired by how she balanced her work and her personal life, always rising to the occasion in both. Mary's humanity was never destroyed by politics and power. She was authentic in all of her relationships, and she will be deeply missed.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes the life of a remarkable individual and devoted public servant, Mary V. King. Her service has helped countless residents of the East Bay community and her contributions are innumerable. I join all of Ms. King's loved ones in celebrating her incredible accomplishments and offer my sincerest condolences.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TAXPAYER  
RIGHTS ACT OF 2015

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 30, 2015*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I have been introducing taxpayer rights legislation since 2004, and today I am proud to introduce the Taxpayer Rights Act of 2015, a bill that contains important provisions to improve services for and protect the rights of American taxpayers, particularly those with modest incomes. Senator CARDIN, who previously helped lead efforts in the House to pass the original Taxpayer Bill of Rights, is introducing companion legislation in the Senate. Many of these provisions are based on recommendations from the National Taxpayer Advocate, Nina Olson, who has long been a champion of improving taxpayer services and tax administration at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

As former Nixon Treasury Secretary William Simon said, "The nation should have a tax system that looks like someone designed it on purpose." As we look for ways to improve the tax code to make it fairer and more transparent for all taxpayers, it is critical that ideas to help improve IRS service and accessibility are included in this conversation. Every year, millions of taxpayers file their returns with the IRS and inevitably issues of tax administration come to the forefront. These issues range from taxpayers not knowing their legal rights when interacting with the IRS, to taxpayers enlisting unscrupulous or poorly-trained preparers to help them complete one of their most important financial transactions of the year. This legislation aims to help prevent taxpayers from finding themselves in these avoidable situations, and to build on and improve taxpayer services provided through the IRS.

The centerpiece of this Act is the requirement that Treasury publish a Taxpayer Bill of Rights. The Taxpayer Bill of Rights is a simple and straightforward statement that enumerates all taxpayers' rights and obligations. As the National Taxpayer Advocate explained in her 2011 Report to Congress: "In a time when the IRS will feel pressure to bring in additional tax revenue, it is crucial to provide taxpayers with strong protection for their rights." Currently, these rights and obligations are scattered throughout the tax code and Internal Revenue Manual, making them neither accessible nor written in plain language that most taxpayers can understand.